



THREE HORRIBLE LYNCHINGS

Charged with Murder Thousands witness the mob's bloody work.

Gov. Mount Active, Will Hunt Down the Guilty Parties.

BOONEVILLE, Ind., Dec. 17.—John Rolla, the third of the colored men implicated in the murder of Hollie Simons, was hanged to a tree in the courthouse yard by a mob of about 100 men from Rockport this evening. Two of his companions were lynched at Rockport last night for the same crime. Not a shot was fired and everything was conducted as quietly as if the execution had been one under the sanction of the law.

Rolla was brought to this place this afternoon about 3 o'clock in charge of Sheriff Anderson, of Rockport. Upon his arrival he was placed in a cell on the second floor of the jail, and his presence was known only to a few citizens.

AN APPARENT REFUSAL.

A few minutes after 6 o'clock a body of 100 men marched through the principal street to the jail and demanded that the prisoner be turned over to it. Deputy Sheriff Raymond Cherry was in charge of the jail. He declined to give up the keys, and the mob began at once to batter in the wall of the jail with a telegraph pole. Six members of the mob crawled through the hole, and with sledges broke down the door of Rolla's cell, and soon the thoroughly terrified colored man was in the hands of the men, who passed a rope around his neck. All left, crawling again through the hole by which they had entered, dragging the colored man after them.

BODY IN THE AIR.

A few minutes were consumed in the march to the courthouse yard, the rope was thrown over a limb of a tree, and a hundred hands sent his body flying into the air. The loose end of the rope was tied to a tree, and as soon as the mob was sure that its work had been completed it left in as orderly a manner as it had entered the town.

None of the mob wore masks, and men apparently from every station in life took part in the lynching. Except for the excited group of men standing on the street corners, a stranger would have known nothing of the tragedy that had just been enacted.

CLAIMED HE WAS CONFESSED.

John Rolla was implicated by Rowland, one of the colored men lynched last night at Rockport, but denied his guilt. He told conflicting stories, and it was learned that he was away from the Veranda Hotel, where he worked about the time Simons was murdered. Confronted with this evidence, Rolla weakened, and confessed his share in the crime, admitting that he struck the first blow and that the other two colored men helped him to kill Simons.

TROOPS FIFTEEN MINUTES TOO LATE.

The militia from Evansville arrived at Booneville fifteen minutes too late, and the dead body of Rolla met their gaze as they marched into town.

The citizens of Rockport held a meeting to-night and formed an organization for the purpose of maintaining law and order and assisting the officers in the prosecution of criminals. It was also resolved to make an effort to take municipal affairs out of politics.

While the lynching was only incidentally discussed, the general sentiment of the community upholds the action of the mob in taking affairs in their own hands. There is no purpose to prosecute any one concerned in the mob.

TROOPS ORDERED OUT.

Evansville, Ind., Dec. 17.—Orders have just been received from Governor Mount instructing the officers of the local military company to assemble their men at once and repair as rapidly as possible to Booneville to protect two colored suspects removed to that place from Rockport late to-night. This order was issued by the governor upon information received from the Rockport officials saying a mob had started from that point with the intention of lynching the two suspects.

COLORFUL PEOPLE INDIGNANT.

Advise from Rockport say the colored people are thoroughly aroused and a race war is imminent.

They openly threaten that out of revenge for the lynching of the colored men they will burn the town to-night. Guards have been stationed about the town and all of the citizens are heavily armed and watching closely for any sign of an outbreak among the colored people.

of the building and manager Debruler succeeded in convincing the mob that the porter had nothing to do with the crime, proving an alibi for him.

The mob then dispersed, apparently satisfied with the work of vengeance.

The man's victim, Simons, was laid out and murdered in the most brutal manner one square from the main street of the city as he was going to his home from his barber shop at 2 o'clock this morning. As he was carrying him he carried the receipts of the day at his place of business.

THE SCHEME TO KILL HIM.

The colored men were aware of this, and evidently laid the plans accordingly. Crouching behind a fence, they awaited their victim, and jumped from their place of concealment and attacked him from behind, striking him over the head with a heavy club with a large nail driven into the end of it.

Although terribly beaten, Simons made a desperate fight, and his cries and struggles soon attracted two boys, who went to his assistance, but they were a moment too late, the victim of the two men having succumbed to the terrible beating, lying dead at their feet. The murderers then drove the would-be rescuers away and accomplished their original design—that of robbery—securing a bag containing something over \$40 from the victim's pockets, and made their escape.

TERIBLY BEATEN.

Simons was terribly beaten, his skull crushed in, and his head and face beaten into a pulp. Four gaping wounds showed where the spikes of the club had punctured the dead man's skull and penetrated his brain.

Walter Evans, one of the young men who attempted to save Simons' life and who afterward assisted in the removal of the dead man's remains to the home where Rowland lives, six months ago, was severely injured. After witnessing the lynching he lost his reason.

The dead man's widow is prostrated, and it is believed she will die from the shock. Hollie Simons came here from Warsaw, Ind., three years ago, and was a popular young man.

The feeling against the colored people was intensified by reason of the fact that within the past two weeks over a dozen houses have been robbed at Rockport, and Rowland and Rowland were suspected of being the leaders in these robberies.

THE INNOCENT AND THE GUILTY.

The mob announced that in the case of the three colored men the guilty persons would be run down and lynched.

Many colored people left the city to-night among them Joe Rolla. Those remaining are keeping themselves closely indoors. Eight other colored people were arrested as suspects, and would have been lynched had they not been able to prove alibis.

The mob was very determined. There was no demonstration except the firing of about twenty shots in the air to prevent the threat of bystanders from crowding up too closely.

After the lynching hundreds of the mob collected in the hotels and other public places and displayed the lynching making no attempt to conceal their connection with the affair.

A BOWLING MOB.

Within a few minutes a mob of a thousand bowling, blood-thirsty citizens, with sledge hammers, ropes and guns, were running to the jail. Sheriff Anderson and his two deputies made a stand and attempted to protect the prisoners.

The officers were seized by the leaders of the mob, who disarmed them. The sheriff was then locked in a room and placed under guard, but he stoutly refused to give up the keys or tell where the prisoners were hidden.

Failing to get the keys, the mob made a determined but unsuccessful attempt to break in the jail door. By this time the would-be-lynchers were in a perfect frenzy, and, securing a telegraph pole, they used it as a battering ram and caved in the side wall of the jail.

DRAWN FROM JAIL.

The door of Rowland's cell was then quickly broken in with sledge and he was dragged from the jail to the east side of the court yard, where a noose was placed around his neck. He was given time to make a statement in which he implicated Jim Henderson and another colored man.

Rowlands then begged piteously for mercy, but the mob swiftly swung the confessed murderer to a tree and ridged his body with bullets.

Leaving the body of Rowlands dangling from the limb of the tree, the mob rushed back to the jail and attempted to burst open the cell occupied by Henderson, but before the steel bars yielded to the blows of the sledges some one in the crowd fired upon the mob, and he was crouched in the corner of his cell. A few moments more and the door of the cell was broken in.

The colored man more dead than alive was dragged at a rope's end to the court house yard and swung on the tree beside the body of Rowlands.

Firing a parting volley at the swinging bodies, the mob, eager for another victim, hurried away to catch the other man implicated by Rowlands in his confession. He was found at a hotel, where he was employed as a porter. The colored man escaped to the roof

CHRISTMAS ODE.

[December, 1900]

Christmas has come again, let earth rejoice from shore to shore,
With heart-felt praise for the birth Of Christ whom we adore:
If at His birth the angels sang In heaven's sweetest strains,
Whose cadence filled the earth and rang
Aloud on Judah's plains:

How much should we rejoice for whom He came to live and die,
Forsooth our doubts dispel our gloom,
And wait His praise on high!
The star which led o'er Bethlehem,
With rays illustrious blase,
Its radiance naught shall ever stem,
While earth shall roll her days.

Peal forth the organ's grandest notes!
With harps and viols sweet,
The flute, whose voice-like music floats O'er plain and wood and street,
Combined with human voices, swell The chorus of His praise,
Whose gracious words, uplifting tell O' higher life and way.

"Glorious to God in the highest!" sing, As angels sang of old,
All honor to the Christ, our king! His praise, a hundred fold!
But let us not forget that He Was kind unto the poor;
Then seek them out and let none be Sent empty from our door.

—O. M. STEWARD.

—Mr. Jas. M. Henderson of the Boston Advance and representative of the Concord Cotton Mill was in the city this week and called on us.

—Rev. W. F. Graham, D. D. has been invited and will deliver the Reminiscence oration January 1st at Williamsburg, Va.

—Mr. Matthews is sick at his residence, 813 Williams St.

D. n't fail to attend that grand concert at First Baptist Church Monday night, Jan. 7, 1901.

—Mr. A. T. Moore is sick at his residence, 1011½ W. Catherine St.

—Mrs. Florence Edna Jones of New York called on us. She carried the remains of her mother, Mrs. Mason Delaney to Amelia Co., Va.

—Deacon Armstrong Jordan of Gifford Baptist Church, Petersburg, Va., father of Mr. J. H. Blackwell, Manchester, Va., died last Wednesday. The account of the funeral will appear next week.

Hear the colored folks sing, recite and play music at First Baptist Church Monday night, Jan. 7, 1901.

—Mr. Nannie Thompson of Henrico Co., Va. left the city on last Friday to spend a few weeks with her daughters, Miss Rosa B. Thompson, Sarah A. Thompson, and Mrs. J. H. Martin at New York City, N. Y.

—Mr. W. H. Hatcher, assistant manager of the Benevolent Investment and Relief Association of Virginia has returned to this city after an extended trip to Norfolk, Portsmouth, Newport News and Old Point. Mr. Hatcher was called to Norfolk as one of the United States Jurymen.

Only 10 cents admission to that grand concert Monday night, January 7, 1901, at First Baptist Church.

Brother J. H. Ross of the 4th Baptist Church will address the boys of the Y. M. C. A. Sunday at 4 p. m.

Let no man miss the meeting for men Sunday at 5:30 p. m. at the Y. M. C. A. rooms. Assistant State Secretary Mr. W. R. Walker will address the men on the subject, "The old and the new. Special music. Free to all men."

Mr. Joseph W. Anderson, the accomplished pianist, will be out in full Monday night, Jan. 7, 1901, at First Baptist Church.

U R NOT IN IT.

Annually, in the month of December hundreds of dollars that have been accumulated and deposited in this Bank by the savings clubs in the factories, the school children, other young folks, and their friends are distributed among them. Are you one of them? If not, you are not in it.

Mr. H. M. Tyler, brother of His Excellency, Governor Hoge Tyler, and a leading attorney of this city and state, who for a number of years was secretary and treasurer of a prominent Banking and Trust Co., speaks in the highest terms of the successful business enterprises carried on by our people among which is the Nickel Savings Bank of Richmond, No. 601 N. 30th St., with its branch Bank at the "White Front, No. 311 N. 4th St.

MONTGOMERY, W. V. A. Dec. 11th.

Miss Julia A. Norman, one of the best known teachers in the state died suddenly at her home here on the 9th inst. The funeral took place to-day and was very largely attended. Dr. U. H. Payne officiating. She was a graduate of Wayland Seminary and had been a successful teacher in the county schools for nine years.

Miss Margaret L. Tinsley, Richmond's favorite nightingale will sing Monday night, Jan. 7, 1901, at First Baptist Church.

FROM PHILIPPINES.

HOT TIMES THERE. Making Friends With The Filipinos. A Bright Future.—No Room For Kicker.

MANILA, P. I., Luzon, Province De Zambales, Co. R., 25th Infantry, September 18th, 1900.

Sir—I have the honor to address you as to our present situation in the Philippines. Two battalions of the 25th Infantry, colored, arrived in Manila Bay, July 31st, 1900 disembarked August 1st, 1899. Since our landing in the island of Luzon we have executed some of as hard and effective work as any other regiment in the Philippines, also made some of the important captures of the campaign (as official reports) will show.

We have participated in many warm engagements, losing comparatively few men killed or wounded owing to the good management and coolness of our officers, non commissioned officers and men.

Wherever we have been stationed on the island we have made friends with the natives and they always express regret when we are ordered from amongst them especially if we have been stationed near them for any length of time.

Our officers and men always make it a rule wherever we are stationed to treat the natives with civility and we have always complied with this rule. We do considerable trading with the natives, a-buys paying them for what we get—baying such as eggs, chickens, fruits, etc.

TREATED WITH CONSIDERATION.

We treat them with due consideration, insurgent prisoners as well as peaceable natives; but whenever they show fight, they are always greeted with a warm reception and they soon learn to treat us with civility and to fight with material, the seemingly peaceable, black fighters of Uncle Sam's regular army are made out of.

We have been stationed in Zambales Province longer than in any other place on the island. We were the first U. S. soldiers to enter this province where we were met with strong resistance but the Filipinos never once had the nerve to stand their ground when they were charged upon by the dusky fighters. They never have once scored a victory over the 25th Infantry. We have lost to the natives the instruments during our first few months in this province and had to recapture many of the towns which we now occupy.

MANY TOWNS GARRISONED.

At one time we only garrisoned Subig, Botol, Yba and Santa Cruz; but now we garrison every town between Subig and Santa Cruz, a distance of about 90 miles covering all of our territory and I don't think it is any other two battalions covering the same territory on the island. Before we split our company into detachments and commenced to garrison all towns between our two immediate stations we were frequently attacked by overwhelming forces which were mobilized in the towns unoccupied by Americans; but never once did they reapplish towns from us. We seem to have given up all hopes and since we have been garrisoning these towns with small detachments we have had very little trouble with them. The most trouble we have had lately have been with roaming bands of Ladrone (robbers).

We haven't a company in any one place along our route except Yba, 25th Infantry Headquarters. The towns range from 8 to 10 miles apart, many less. We have not had any trouble with the natives in our territory for several months we have killed, captured and forced to surrender the majority of the leaders in this province, those that have not been dealt with as above mentioned have sought other fields for operation, as they are disgusted with so many repeated defeats from the 25th.

HARD TO MOBILIZE.

It is hard for them to mobilize any fighting force in this province or nowhere on the island can they carry any plans into execution without being intercepted by the Americans. The 25th Infantry has been stationed in the town (which we now occupy) long enough to know hombre's (men) belong to certain localities. Even detachments make 2 or 3 trips per week so in that manner we get acquainted with the country and people.

Whenever a strange hombre enters a town he is generally arrested and questioned. Sometimes he proves to be a deserter from the insurgent's force; sometimes a spy and more generally coming in to surrender. Many insurgents are coming in daily under the Amnesty Proclamation issued by General MacArthur and if they continue to come in at the rate they have been it won't be long before the insurrection will be

WHERE TO BUY.

PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS.

Who does not know Messrs. Walter D. Moses & Co., the music house firm of the South? The question of pianos, organs, etc., is settled right here. A goods guaranteed. Call and see them. See advertisement.

The "Economy," Mr. W. O. Turner proprietor, has attracted attention here. Your clothing can be made over at a small cost. See advertisement.

Real estate is one thing and a real estate agent another. You get both by corresponding with the A. J. Chawning Co., 6 N. 10th St. See advertisement.

When we mentioned the Gans-Rady Co., all Richmond knew. Here will be found satisfaction. Try any more to go beyond the mark. Call and see these leading clothiers.

Now, the wet goods are on top at Mr. Isaac Straus'. He's ready to serve you so that you will enjoy your Christmas. See advertisement.

Messrs. O. H. Berry & Co., are at the old stand with new features. Their goods are warranted and their prices will satisfy. See advertisement.

Furniture dealers like Messrs. Snyder & Hurdle, point you to their record. Anything in the furniture line can be secured at a bargain, see advertisement.

"OUR COLONEL."

We have one of the finest Colonels in the U. S. Army. He is beloved and held in high esteem by all who are under him. We regret to think that soon he will soon depart from us, owing to him reaching the required age for retirement. Of course there are plenty of good officers in our army. Our whole army is composed of good and efficient officers; but still we hate to lose our Colonel as we know him and he knows us. All Filipinos who have to go to him are dealt with with great consideration. They have all learned to respect him. Never have the 25th left on an expedition, but he would warn them to treat the natives with civility and due consideration, which order we always complied with. He takes great pride in the discipline of his regiment, although he will leave us soon, his name will ever be cherished by our regiment.

I have read good many accounts of discharged volunteers and regulars, the American newspapers of the deprecations committed by Filipinos by our men in the field, which reports are false as every soldier in Philippines knows that the lives and property of Filipinos are daily protected by Americans from their own people. We are treated with great consideration. Our officers take great pride in protecting and seeing that the peaceable natives property is respected as well as protected.

If a person were to search the roots of these reports they could easily see where they originate. Some men come to the army for pleasure and some for adventure, but when they enlist and are presented their field equipments and commence camp life, their expectation of feather mattresses spring beds, ham and eggs, quail on toast and other such delicacies are not realized. They commence to cry for home, but when crying seems to do no good, they generally turn to be chronic kickers and newspaper correspondents.

WHAT THEY EXPECT.

It seems as if they expect to campaign in Palm Beach, Fla. The American Army is better off without such men, as they are a detriment to the service and the quicker they can be exported to their homes the better for the service. They should all be corralled up and fed on beefsteak and chicken-broth until they can be driven back to their parents to be nursed on a more delicate food.

The American Army doesn't need any chronic kicker-babies or gold feet-sixteen-to-oneites nor Bry-?ites in it. We are eating very well on a Gold Chow and we wouldn't like a change of menu to a "Silver-platinum Chow" although we might get a plenty of the latter to chew, but it is liable not to digest well—Gold Chow is substantial enough for us. We know which is which. The health of the 25th can be compared with that of the troops serving in the States with an exception of the minor tropical diseases such as Dobe itch which has been greatly reduced by our doctors.

Our doctors exercise the greatest precaution against contagious diseases and they see that a strict sanitary law is observed by soldiers as well as natives. All of the 25th are quartered in good barracks. Duty has been reduced 50 per cent and every thing is going on in harmony.

I hope to write you again soon. Co. H. as well as myself, extend to you our best wishes for the success of your paper and the betterment of condition of the Southern Negro.

I remain respectfully yours,
JAMES BOOKER,
Co. H, 25th Infantry.

P. S. I am a Virginian was born in Farmville, Va., enlisted in Richmond, Va. March 11th, 1897, was discharged March 10th, 1900, re-enlisted March 11th, 1900, at Manassas, P. I., and have been serving with Co. H, 25th, ever since I have been in the service. My experiences have been many in and out of the states.

The Star Clothing House is ready to carry out its pledges. For weeks it has told you of its offerings and those who have called have been well satisfied.

Look out for that Church Hill quartette, Monday night, Jan. 7, 1901, at First Baptist Church.

—All who owe Mr. Joseph Evans, our agent at Pittsburgh, Pa., will please call on him and settle for the Planet.